



ORDER OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE

NEWSLETTER: 2 OF 2026

A MESSAGE FROM THE WARDEN YOUNG CARR

A Message for Our Times: "Make God Great Again"

Written by Warden YW CARR

A Message of Faith and Encouragement

As we step into the second quarter of 2026, we are reminded of the words of Scripture: "If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land." – 2 Chronicles 7:14

This verse calls us to ongoing prayer for South Africa, its leaders, and the nations of the world. We must continually turn back to God, trusting Him to heal and restore.

Ministry Highlights

• Partnership with Gideons SA: Together, we continue the vital mission of spreading God's Word by distributing Bibles across communities.

ABOUT OCS

FOUNDED IN 1955, THE ORDER OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE EXISTS TO SERVE THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST BY MEANS OF SUPPLYING MANPOWER FOR ALL TYPES OF EMPLOYMENT IN GOD'S SERVICE

"FOR WE DO NOT PREACH OURSELVES, BUT JESUS CHRIST AS LORD, AND OURSELVES AS YOUR SERVANTS FOR JESUS, SAKE" 2 CORINTHIANS 4:5



Billy Graham Evangelistic Association: We are blessed to share their Rapid Response Training for Chaplains (free), which some of our partners have already completed. This equips us to serve in times of crisis with compassion and faith.

- **Association of Certified Chaplains SA:** OCS will have a stand at their National Convention in Centurion this May. Our collaboration with them over the years has strengthened our shared mission.
- **Upcoming Invitation:** Later this year, we will display OCS offerings at the DR Church Panorama's Christian/Family event, which will include vintage cars and a fun family day.

Prayer Focus

We call on all members to add these areas to their daily prayer lists:

- **Local Needs:** Communities across South Africa, our leaders, and churches.
- **International Concerns:** Ongoing wars in Ukraine, Iran, and other regions.
- **Missionaries & Field Workers:** Pray for strength, protection, and fruitfulness in their service.

Serving and Growing Together

Our mission remains clear: to serve and lead people to Christ. We encourage all members to:

- Recruit new members into OCS.
- Identify needs in your local communities and help fulfil them.
- Support spiritually through prayer and contributions.
- Participate in free training available on the OCS website to equip yourselves as field workers.

The Holy Spirit will guide us in this task.

We are deeply thankful for those making a difference:

- Trevor – our administrator and the OCS leadership.
- Shaun – our website manager.
- All members – who pray daily and support OCS faithfully.

Your dedication is the heartbeat of this ministry.

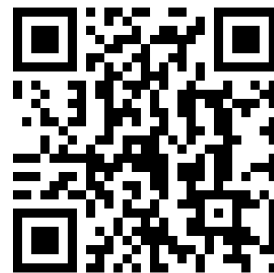
Call for Suggestions

We welcome ideas from members on how we can serve better and make a greater impact. Together, we can continue to grow our funds and resources to support our missionaries and field workers.

Closing Word of Hope

As we reflect on Easter, let us remember:

Jesus' sacrifice is the foundation of our faith and the source of our eternal hope. May we walk boldly in His love, spreading the Good News wherever we go.



Final Blessing

On behalf of OCS leadership – Tony, Bill, Donald, Philip, Shaun, Trevor, and myself – we send our love and encouragement. May you continue to grow in health, faith, and your journey with Jesus. Let us press forward together, serving Christ and proclaiming His name.

And let us hold fast to the promise of renewal and strength: Jesus' sacrifice is the foundation of our faith and the source of our eternal hope. May we walk boldly in His love, spreading the Good News wherever we go.

But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." – Isaiah 40:31

Young Carr
Warden, Order of Christian Service



JOHN 3:16:

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A REPORT FROM HEATHER JOHNSTONE

Location: Ta Tanzania

What I do: Helping to empower the most disadvantaged women and children in Mara through the Rehema Project.

Greetings to you All

Two praiseworthy stories from Rehema

Two young girls, Mariam (9) and Christina (8) always come and visit me at Rehema when their grandmother is attending choir practice at the cathedral (next door). It's very exciting and they chatter away, draw pictures and 'hang out'. Their mother died a few years ago and their father abandoned them leaving their grandmother to fend for them. During one of their visits, our cook, Mode, asked me if Mariam was sick. I told her that I didn't know but didn't think so. Mode later asked the same question to her grandmother, as just by looking at her she suspected the girl either had Sickle Cell Anaemia or HIV Aids. The grandmother confirmed that Mariam did indeed have Sickle Cell Anaemia but confessed that she hadn't taken her for her monthly check up for several months because she had no money for transport to get to the hospital, never mind the treatment or prescribed medicine. The monthly cost is about Tsh 40,000 (£13). We told her we would be more than happy to support her with these costs through our Assistance Programme as it is so important for Mariam and her future. She was so relieved and grateful.

Praise/Prayer Point: Thanks be to God for aligning us with this family enabling them to get this much needed treatment for Mariam. Pray for her as she fights this terrible disease.

A name you will have heard of before is Kenneth, who was named after my late father. Kenneth broke his arm in November last year. The treatment he received was very poor and the arm never healed properly. I saw him some months ago and noticed he was protecting his left arm and doing everything with the good arm. His mother told me the bone had never set properly, and he was favouring his right arm as it was painful to use the left one. I told her if he continued to use only the right arm that would create future problems due to muscle wastage etc. The problem could not be ignored, and I thought medical intervention was needed. She consulted a specialist doctor at the Government Hospital and corrective surgery was recommended.



A REPORT FROM HEATHER JOHNSTONE

Praise/Prayer Point/Location: Ta Tanzania

What I do: Helping to empower the most disadvantaged women and children in Mara through the Rehema Project.

I am pleased to report that my home assignment in the UK at the end of 2025 was both encouraging and productive.

I returned to Tanzania on 14 January 2026. My departure at the end of October 2025 had been marked by hasty and disjointed goodbyes, as the post-election unrest made it impossible to bid farewell to the Rehema women properly.

To my surprise and delight, they transformed that missed farewell into a joyful “welcome home” celebration at my house—organized in less than 24 hours of my arrival in Musoma. Though I wasn’t sure I was ready for such exuberance after long flights and road travel, the day turned out to be a wonderful, spirited gathering. The laughter, songs, and shared meal reminded me of the strength of community and the joy of reunion.

The very next morning, however, reality came rushing back. Work resumed at full speed, and life has been non-stop ever since. Yet the memory of that heartfelt welcome continues to carry me through the busyness, a reminder of the bonds that make this place home.

Praise/Prayer point: Please pray that the Lord will continue to strengthen the Rehema women in unity, joy, and resilience.





A REPORT FROM HEATHER JOHNSTONE

We were blessed to have a team of 5 gap year students from the UK support Rehema Cafe 4 times a week for almost three months from January to April. The team from Christian charity Go Make a Difference in Tanzania were lovely and really bonded well with the Rehema ladies. They had a lot of fun together and the team were invited to share a fabulous meal at our cook's home on Easter Sunday, which they thoroughly enjoyed. We were sad to see them leave on Easter Monday.

Praise/Prayer point: Give thanks for the gap year team's time in Musoma and pray for them as move on to their next undertakings in life.



On Easter Sunday I worshipped at the Anglican Cathedral in Musoma which is located right next door to Rehema Café. The service was not only a celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ but also marked a significant milestone in the life of my friend and colleague, Revd. Martha Obura as she was installed as Canon by Bishop George. Martha's journey is a powerful testimony of resilience, faith, and God's grace

Martha is a remarkable woman. At the age of four, Martha was hospitalised with polio, an affliction that left lasting consequences. Her education was disrupted, and she was advised against marriage, being told she would be a burden. Yet Martha's faith never wavered. She married, raised three children, fostered one, and pursued theological studies, eventually becoming ordained.

Today she serves as the Secretary of the Mothers Union in Mara, playing a vital role in supporting and empowering women within the community. Her leadership and dedication exemplify faith in action, fostering unity and resilience among members. Through her work, she continues to inspire positive change and strengthen the bonds of fellowship in Mara. Her work and mission are very much aligned with what we try and achieve with the Rehema Project.





A REPORT FROM HEATHER JOHNSTONE

Martha attributes her achievements to the truth found in John 9:3: “that the works of God might be displayed in her life.” This conviction has guided her through challenges, enabling her to trust in God’s provision and strength.

Her installation as Canon on Easter Sunday is not only a personal triumph but also a symbol of hope and renewal for the wider community. Martha’s life is a witness to God’s grace, inspiring others to see His works revealed in every circumstance.

Praise/Prayer Point: We praise God for Martha’s installation as Canon. Pray that her ministry continues to inspire resilience, unity, and faith within the Mothers Union and the wider community.



Another pastor friend of mine, Pastor Nahum who lives in the village of Nyambeshi asked me to come and visit him and his elderly mother, Margreth, at their small, rented home last weekend, so that we could pray for her health. She is very unwell, is unable to do much more than just lie on a mattress on the ground all day and all night. I was very happy to pray for her but also recognised that she might need some medical intervention or at least diagnosis, so suggested that he take her to the hospital for an assessment and we would support the visit through our Assistance Programme. The diagnosis is she has permanent liver damage. The prognosis is not good, but they advised on nutrition and gave her various vitamins and other treatment for the liver to recover at least a bit.

Praise/Prayer Point: Pray that the Lord would ease her pain, bring comfort to her body, and strengthen her spirit. Lift Nahum, that he may have wisdom, patience, and strength to care for her lovingly.

In my last link letter I wrote about Mariam, a young girl who has Sickle Cell Anaemia. Mariam has unfortunately been poorly for much of this year, but thanks to the generosity of supporters we are able to support her medical expenses through our Assistance Programme. Praise the Lord, she was well enough to visit us the week before Easter.





A REPORT FROM HEATHER JOHNSTONE

Praise/Prayer Point: Thanks be to God for aligning us with this family enabling them to get this much needed treatment for Mariam. Pray for her as she fights this terrible disease.

My Work and Residence Permits expire on 23 May 2026, and I have started the process of applying for a two-year renewal. The application process has been beset with technical difficulties including the Labour and Immigration Departments online portals being down for almost a month, but please do pray that these permits are approved without any further problems.

Mungu akuwabariki. May God bless you all.



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A REPORT FROM PHILIP STONEMAN

Self-Reflection

On the 23rd February I started a fast leading up to Easter and Good Friday. I felt I needed not only to come closer to God but also needed a "life & soul spiritual reset" (Giving up meat and sweets was not an easy task, but the discipline and sacrifice was needed & worth it!). The last few years have been tough, not from a life perspective but dealing with self – my internal struggles, uncertainty, doubt, anxiety, worry, not always focusing on the right thing. Fasting allows for greater introspection – a way of finding self and God and reconnecting.

Sometimes our internal thinking can disrupt our spiritual growth, leading to doubt. Which is why Paul wrote: "Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. (Romans 12:2) So the fast was all about getting my "thinking" right That said, one of the blessings coming out of the fasting period, (which ended on Good Friday) was that after 17 months of my car being broken down – my car was fixed (received the day before Good Friday) and is now running smoothly- Praise God!!!



Ministry Highlights

- Crisis Interventions: Our Chaplains have responded to multiple urgent calls, (Suicides, Armed Robbery and Natural Deaths) whilst I attended to an armed robbery scene providing immediate trauma support. Additionally, I engaged with two young men struggling with depression, anxiety, and suicidal ideation. One of them is now receiving ongoing spiritual mentorship and guidance. Our team (which is small) are starting to do more calls on their own – this includes assisting families and another organization with social care support (groceries / food parcels) this though is limited and only on an ad hoc as needed basis.
- Chaplaincy Collaboration: Held meetings with fellow chaplains to strengthen coordination and to Reconnect. We were also able to induct Sean Amm as a Chaplain in March. Sean is involved with a Bikers club and so will minister to the members as a Chaplain but referred to as assistant pastor to their National Pastor.

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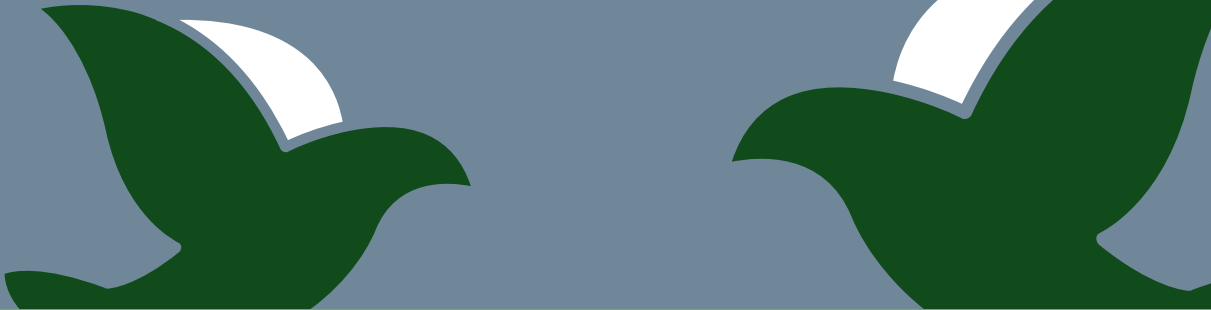
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A REPORT FROM PHILIP STONEMAN

- Volunteer Engagement:** Convened with trauma support volunteers to encourage, equip, and align efforts for community outreach.
- Education & Awareness** I have focused a lot of effort on advancing the creation of training materials and further development of a structured training platform to support chaplains and volunteers, with continued efforts to expand membership and strengthen the network of trauma support partners. In October and November, I presented a well-attended Webinar on Trauma and Self Care. With the online platform and structures, I am developing, my aim is to implement monthly education sessions as a webinar format to build awareness and community growth.

Closing Thoughts

The past 6 months have been both challenging and rewarding. From crisis interventions to mentoring, doing outside freelance training development, and team collaboration, I see God's hand at work in sustaining and guiding us. We were blessed with some time together down in PE over Christmas (pic shown) with some great places to visit – only God can make this happen

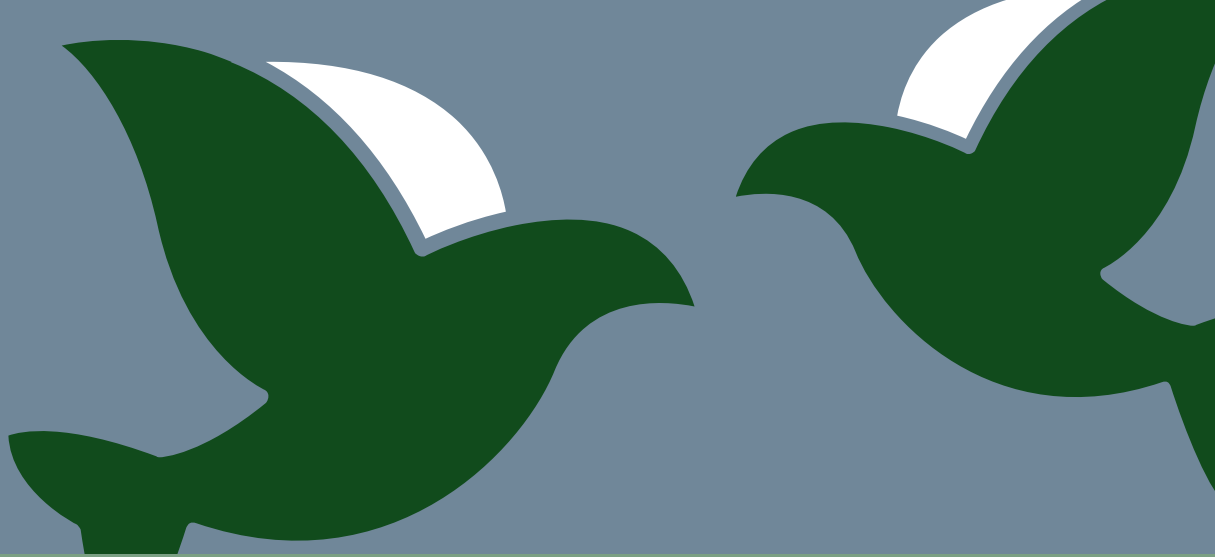


As I sign off (today is time with the family and celebrating my son Ethans 17th birthday), I want to say "Thank you" for your prayers, encouragement, and partnership in this journey of service.

Shalom and blessings.

Philip Stoneman





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A REPORT FROM TERESA STUTHRIDGE

Greetings to all of our OCS friends in the name of our Lord and Saviour!

And so the year is already one quarter of the way through. There is little to report at the moment ... we continue to minister in Brakpan and it is going well we have eight new people who join us regularly so that is a celebration. The Easter services were a blessing

We are still waiting for some kind of solution as to how we are going to mend the church building and fundraising is a slow process. So the wait continues. I was speaking to a friend the other day about how God knows the number of hairs on our heads etc. and we decided that God also knows every brick and beam that has been laid in His house and He always has a plan so we will be patient in the waiting.

I would ask that the OCS community please continue prayers for James and I as we have now been waiting since November for one invoice to be paid which will lift us out of this hole we seem to have fallen into. Anyway, James and I are confident that this too shall pass ... he is working on a few projects which will hopefully bring some income and I am doing small jobs where I can but it's also slow going.

Thank you to all of those who keep all the field workers in prayer and encourage us daily ... the WhatsApp prayer group is also a daily blessing.. And especially to our Lord for blessing us every day.

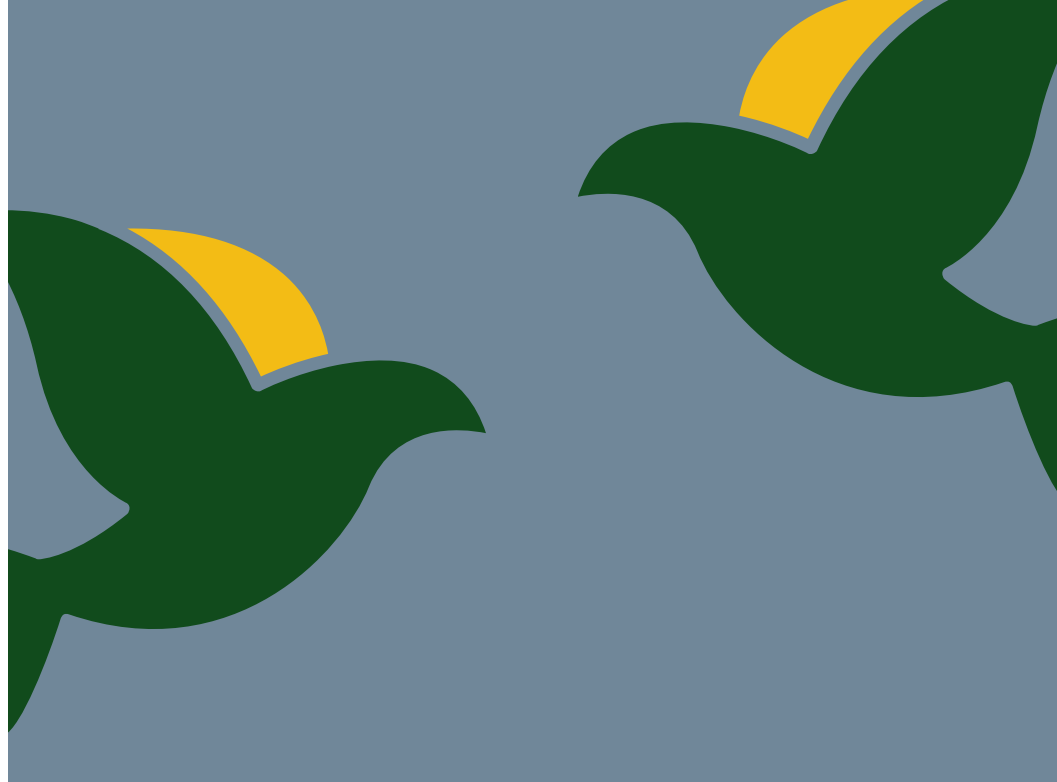
God bless

Ps. Teresa Stuthridge

A few pictures from our Easter services
 Palm Sunday and Easter services



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WHATSAPP

If you have not joined the OCS WhatsApp group, I encourage you to do so by follow this link to join the WhatsApp group:



Click the Icon to join

THE BANKING DETAILS OF THE ORDER OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Account Name: THE ORDER OF
CHRISTIAN SERVICE

Bank: First National Bank; Account
No: 51460055557; Universal Branch
Code: 250655

Reference - You name (so that we
can personally thank you)

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BLESSINGS,
WARDEN YOUNG CARR
ORDER OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE

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OCS PRAYER WHATSAPP GROUP

Greetings to all of our OCS friends

Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all for allowing me to be God's servant as I serve Him as Secretary and Treasurer for the Order.

Since May 2025, a WhatsApp Prayer Group has been created. The purpose of this group is, as it is called, to pray. I have been encouraged and blessed to be able to pray for each person daily. Those who are linked to the group, sends requests for us to pray, for themselves and those whom they know and love.

As we know the importance prayer is in a Christian's life, I would like to invite you to join the group and let us pray together.

The link to join the OCS Prayer Group is:

https://chat.whatsapp.com/GRoI7IZOFy193IqnE9isSR?mode=gi_t

If there is anyone you would like us to include in our monthly/yearly prayer calendar, please send me a message via WhatsApp or email

Blessings

Trevor Harrison